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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
PRODUCTION AND MARKETING ADMINISTRATION
Midwest Area, Office of Information Services
623 South Wabash Avenue
Chicago 5, Illinois
May 2, 1951

FOOD MARKETING NEWSLETTER

Farm production of 42.9 billion pounds of meat animals in 1950 was second highest since USDA began keeping records in 1909. Production up 5 percent from the 40.9 billion pounds in 1949, but still 8 percent under record high of 46.6 billion pounds in 1943. Cattle and calf output was largest on record...hogs, third largest. Sheep and lambs up first time in 8 years. Gross income from these meat animals totalled 9.9 billion dollars, up 1 billion from '49 but still below peaks of '47 and '48.

* * *

USDA reports that \$2,422,621,000 was invested in CCC price-support program loans and inventories as of March 31, 1951, and that the Corporation sustained a net realized loss of \$262,506,000 in carrying out this program during the current fiscal year through March. (Net realized loss on price support program for fiscal year ended June 30, 1950 was \$249,230,000).

* * *

USDA reports approximately 1,675,000 long tons (about 63,806,000 bushels) of bulk wheat and coarse grains have been programmed for commercial and Government export in June. Total includes 1,200,000 long tons of wheat and 475,000 long tons of coarse grains.

* * *

Approximate quantities and domestic prices of various commodity holdings of CCC that will be available to buyers during May have been announced by USDA. For domestic sale, CCC lists dried whole eggs, nonfat dry milk solids, raw linseed oil, dry edible beans, wheat, oats, barley, and corn. The May price list, like previous ones, generally is based upon the minimum levels prescribed by the Agricultural Act of 1949. Act requires that CCC shall not sell any basic agricultural commodity or storable nonbasic commodity at less than 5 percent above the current support price for such commodity, plus reasonable carrying charges. Announcements of all terms and conditions of sale will be furnished upon request to FMA, USDA, Washington 25, D. C.

* * *

Price support for 1951-crop grain sorghums has been upped from 65% to 75% of the January 15, 1951, parity level. National average support price for sorghums grading No. 2 or better will be \$2.17 per hundredweight. Increase is designed to encourage planting of greater acreage of sorghums to replace winter wheat acreage already abandoned in Southwestern states.

* * *

Members and alternates to serve on South Dakota Potato Committee, which administers marketing agreement and order on Irish potatoes in Eastern South Dakota counties, are: Edward J. Spevak and Nick Kranz, both of Watertown; Albert Cizadlo, Goodwin, and Albert Markrud, Wallace; Charles A. Larkin, Jr. and Walter Logan, both of Clark; C. A. Rea, Garden City, and Ralph Maynard, Clark; Fred Huke, Hayti, and John Gleysteen, Castlewood; D. G. Johnson, Aberdeen, and Harry Upton, Webster.

* * *

Proposed revision of U.S. Standards for Grades of Frozen and Canned Lima Beans has been announced by USDA following development of new bean varieties which have been widely adopted by processors. Proposed revision was in Federal Register of April 27.

* * *

USDA has lifted bans on importation of foreign banana plants and plant parts other than fruits and domestic movement of banana plants and plant parts from Hawaii and Puerto Rico. Effective May 12, entry of foreign planting stock will be subject to protective provisions of quarantine regulating importation of nursery stock, plants and seeds.

* * *

Roy W. Lennartson is new Assistant Administrator for Marketing in PMA, succeeding John I. Thompson who recently resigned. In USDA since 1936, except for period in armed forces, Lennartson was Deputy Assistant Administrator for Marketing, at time of new appointment.

* * *

Farmers had only 47,877,512 bushels of 1940-crop corn under CCC price support through March '51, against 315,300,000 bushels of 1949-crop through March '50.

* * *

Meat production under Federal Inspection was 298 million pounds for week ended April 28, 1 percent under the 302 million pounds of the preceding week and 4 percent below 311 million pounds a year earlier.

* * *

USDA reports that sales by all exporting countries under International Wheat Agreement, against 1950-51 quotas recorded by Wheat Council through April 20, 1951, totalled 524,289,000 bushels. This leaves 38,256,000 bushels to be sold.

* * *

PMA has proposed procedure and instructions for administration of poultry inspection grading services under a cooperative Federal-State program. Suggestions or comments on the proposals may be filed with Chief of the Marketing Services Division, Poultry Branch, within 15 days after publication in Federal Register of April 24.

* * *

Purchase of 1950 crop potatoes under price support continues to slow down. Purchases for the season through April 24 were about 94-1/4 million bushels.

* * *

Walter Straub, Chicago food manufacturer, has been appointed to USDA staff as consultant on marketing and food distribution. In 1946, Straub directed government emergency food program to provide food for relief shipment abroad in immediate postwar period.

* * *

Poultry Branch of PMA gets administrative direction for all poultry inspection and grading work July 1. Action continues a separation of functions begun in August 1945 when Dairy and Poultry Branch was divided into a Dairy Branch and a Poultry Branch. At that time, grading and inspection services for both poultry and dairy production were combined under supervision of Dairy Branch.

* * *

Procedure for approving sugar export licenses has been revised by USDA. Effective immediately, license applications for quantities in excess of 1,000 tons will be approved only upon certification that the sugar to be exported is foreign world sugar imported under bond for refining and re-export. Heretofore, issuance of licenses for these quantities has been determined on basis of individual merit. To avoid unnecessary restrictions, Department of Commerce will continue to approve export license applications for smaller quantities.

* * *

USDA terminated a provision of Milwaukee, Wis., Federal Milk Marketing Order under which farmers were paid one rate for a certain amount of milk and a separate price for deliveries over that base amount. USDA acted after dairy farmers supplying area approved. Milkmen feared "base rating" provision might further jeopardize threatened milk supply shortage. USDA has recommended consolidating orders in the Chicago area and several other proposed changes in the Chicago order.

* * *

Revised U. S. Standards for rough rice, brown rice and milled rice go into effect July 1, 1951. Principal revision is the development of new standards for rough rice. This provides for grading on basis of estimated quantity and quality of milled rice that can be produced from a given lot of the rough product.

* * *

Poultry plants have until July 1, 1951 before dressed poultry is subject to provisions of sanitary requirements under regulations governing voluntary grading and inspection services. USDA amended regulations to extend the period from May 1. Action also permits conditional approval of processing plants and provides for backlogs of dressed poultry which may be processed under inspection or grading service after sanitary requirements become applicable on July 1.

* * *

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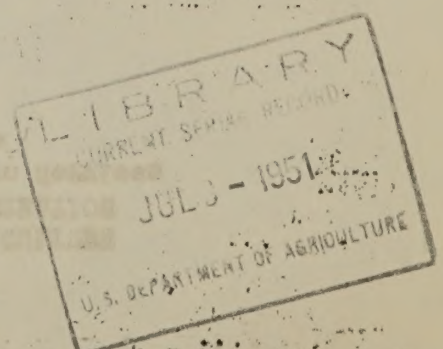
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
PRODUCTION AND MARKETING ADMINISTRATION
Midwest Area, Office of Information Services
623 South Wabash Avenue
Chicago 5, Illinois
May 9, 1951

FOOD MARKETING NEWSLETTER

United States meat production of 22.1 billion pounds in 1950 climbed 2 percent above the 21.7 billion pounds in 1949, USDA reports. BEEF production was up 1 percent and third largest on record, VEAL down 8 percent and smallest since 1943, PORK up 4 percent, MUTTON and LAMB off 1 percent and smallest since 1924. LARD production of 2, 645 million pounds was 93 million pounds above '49 production. Total 1950 meat output (commercial plus farm slaughter) was 12 percent below record high of 25.2 billion pounds of meat in 1944.

* * *

Farmers got about 6 percent of the national income last year; realized an average of only 69 cents an hour for their labor, a 5 percent return on their investment in plant and equipment and nothing for their managerial ability; return on investment was less than one-third of what corporations realized for their capital investment. These are the highlights of a recent USDA study of the relation of farm income to that in other parts of our economy.

* * *

Meat production under Federal inspection for the week ended May 5 was 302 million pounds, 1 percent above 300 million pounds the preceding week, but 3 percent below the 311 million pounds a year earlier.

* * *

USDA announced that distribution of sugar by primary distributors in the continental United States for civilian and military use during the week ended April 28, 1951, totalled 129,345 short tons, raw value, compared with 148,975 tons during the corresponding week last year.

* * *

Minimum "fair price" condition under which processor-producers of 1951-crop sugar beets will be eligible for payments under Sugar Act of 1948 is as follows: prices not less than those provided for in 1951 crop purchase contract between processor-producer and a producer shall be used as a basis for settlement for sugar beets purchased from a producer and processed by the processor-producer. Processor-producer is a producer who directly or indirectly is also a processor of sugar beets.

* * *

Value of United States agricultural exports on which improved tariff treatment was obtained from other countries in negotiations at Torquay, England, was \$584 million on a 1949 valuation basis.... 16 percent of total U.S. agricultural exports of \$3,600 million in 1949. Tariff concession on agricultural products granted to other countries by U. S. covered 3-1/2 percent of the agricultural products imported into this country in 1949, or \$102 million of the total of \$2,900 million.

* * *

USDA's meat grading service is being extended in line with requirements of OPS Distribution Regulation 2, under which meat must be federally graded after May. Department is assigned entire grading program in connection with DR2, but expects little difficulty supplying service. Supervisors at 38 main grading stations will work out regular schedule with different slaughterers as to specified times graders will be available. Slaughterers should request service from their nearest grading office.

* * *

A public hearing will be held May 15 in Duluth, Minnesota, to consider following three proposed changes in pricing and classification of milk in Duluth-Superior milk marketing area: (1) Raise Class 1 price differential to \$1.50 per hundredweight for all months of the year; (2) provide an increase in the Class 1 butterfat differential, amounting to 10¢ per pound in the price of butterfat used in fluid cream; (3) classify concentrated milk for fluid consumption as a Class 1 product.

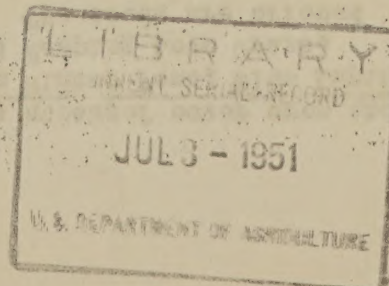
* * *

Sales by all exporting countries under International Wheat Agreement against 1950-51 quotas recorded by Wheat Council through April 27 totalled 526,241,000 bushels. This leaves 36,304,000 bushels to be sold.

* * *

A public hearing to consider merging the Clinton, Iowa, Federal milk marketing order with the Quad Cities Federal order, enlarge the two milk marketing areas and make three changes in the pricing and classification of milk in the two areas will be held in Rock Island, Illinois, May 21.

* * *



USDA has announced prices at which CCC will offer its stocks of cover crop and certain hay and pasture seeds. Included are Austrian Winter Peas, Blue Lupine Seed, Common and Willamette Vetch, Kobe Lespedeza and Weeping Love Grass. Prices will not be changed before December 31, 1951. The seeds are offered for immediate delivery to enable dealers and farmers to plan for early and increased planting.

* * *

Heavy quality loss to potatoes during shipment to city markets is disclosed in a research report issued recently by Agricultural Experiment Station at Oregon State College, Corvallis. Study covers shipping losses to potatoes grown in Oregon and Idaho and shipped by rail, in carload lots, to Chicago and Des Moines. In the shipments under study, defects in the potatoes practically doubled during transit between shipping point and terminal markets. At these markets, nearly 12 pounds of potatoes per 100-lb. sack were found to have defects, compared with 6 pounds per sack before leaving shipping points. Defects increased an average of 5.7 pounds per sack during transit.

USDA has recommended a proposal to classify concentrated milk for fluid consumption as a Class 1 milk product in the Cleveland, Ohio, milk marketing area. At present there is no specific classification for concentrated milk, a new product, under provisions of Federal order regulating handling of milk in the area. Another recommended proposal would improve administration of Federal order by revising a provision obliging certain milk handlers to make payments to the equalization account under Federal order.

* * *

USDA has recommended issuance of a Federal order to regulate handling of milk in the Cedar Rapids, Iowa, milk marketing area. Recommended order, requested by dairy farmers in the area, would be virtually identical with orders operating in three nearby Federally-regulated markets...Quad Cities, Clinton and Dubuque. Heretofore, there has been no Federal order in effect in the area.

* * *

A proposal which would expand the Michigan portion of the Toledo, Ohio, milk marketing area to include the city of Monroe, Michigan, and the three Monroe County townships of Frenchtown, LaSalle and Monroe, has been recommended by USDA. Department's recommendation also gives tentative approval to a proposal which would provide a method of determining which Federal milk marketing order would apply to a milk distributor subject to two orders.

* * *

USDA reports that production of dry casein for March was estimated at 1,840,000 pounds, highest for the month since 1947. Output was up 23 percent from a year earlier and 16 percent above the March five-year average.

* * *

World flaxseed production in 1950 is now estimated at 133,520,000 bushels, smallest since 1947, according to data available to USDA's Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Crop was down from 1949 by 7.2 million bushels but was practically the same as the 1935-39 average.

* * *

Taking the cue from citrus processors, milk handlers in some large markets are sending their product to retail outlets in concentrated form. Frozen and unfrozen concentrated milk is being offered to consumers in the Cleveland and Lima, Ohio markets and several markets in Illinois. Concentrated milk is not new, having been sold in the early 30's on an experimental basis in Ohio. During World War II it was used by the Armed Forces.

* * *

FMA cites the following foods expected to be in plentiful supply throughout the greater part of the United States during June: Oranges, locally grown fresh vegetables, canned apples, canned applesauce, canned citrus juices, cottage cheese, broilers and fryers, turkeys, fresh fish (local species), dry beans and peanut butter.

* * *

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May 16, 1951

FOOD MARKETING NEWSLETTER

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Cooler occupancy in public refrigerated warehouses decreased during April in contrast with usual increase for month. April 30 space 59 percent occupied, down 1 point from March 31 occupancy. Freezer space 69 percent occupied, down 3 points. Net withdrawal of 274 million pounds of cooler commodities reduced weight of cooler held foodstuffs to 1.5 billion pounds. Weight of freezer commodities was 1.7 billion pounds, reflecting net withdrawal of 88 million pounds. Supplies of meats and meat products of 877 million pounds compares with 749 million year earlier. Beef decreased by 20 million pounds during April, pork 5 million pounds, other meats 4 million pounds. Beef holdings still 20 million larger than year ago, pork almost 20 percent greater. Butter decreased by 1 million pounds in April, cheese down 12 million pounds, shell eggs up 700,000 cases, frozen eggs up 49 million pounds, frozen poultry down 46 million. Fresh apples, accounting for greater part of reduction in cooler weight, decreased 6 million bushels during April; fresh pears down 181 thousand bushels.

* * *

USDA has announced its tentative decision to approve a proposed issuance of a Federal order to regulate handling of milk in Detroit milk marketing area. Decision contains five changes from provisions proposed in Department's recommendation of March 1. Marketing area to which order would apply includes city of Detroit and adjoining nearby cities of Ann Arbor, Ypsilanti, Dearborn, Pontiac, Mt. Clemens, Port Huron; also adjoining areas comprising in all 57 townships in Wayne, Oakland, Washtenaw, Macomb, Monroe and St. Clair Counties.

* * *

Two CCC loan programs previously slated to expire June 30, 1951, have been extended through June 30, 1952.

One involves loans to farmers to finance construction or purchase new farm storage facilities for grains and certain other crops. Extension will serve to increase farm storage space and ease pressure on transportation facilities with minimum use of critical materials. As of June 30, approximately \$23,400,000 in loans were approved for farm storage with aggregate capacity of over 85,000,000 bushels.

Other program is offer of loans, or guarantee of loans made by approved lending agencies, to producers for purchase of new mobile mechanical equipment to dry farm commodities. Helps producers participate in USDA's price-support operations by enabling them to acquire equipment to dry storable farm commodities in order to make same safe for storage and thus eligible for loans.

* * *

U.S. Standards for grades of certain fruits and vegetables got attention from U.S.D.A. the past week.

For the first time, grade standards were established for sweet potatoes for canning and for sweet potatoes for dicing and pulping. Standards are for both U.S. No. 1 and U. S. No. 2 grades.

Principal points of a proposed revision of U. S. Standards for grades of apples are: that U. S. Fancy and U. S. No. 1 grade requirements be the same, except for stricter color and russetting requirements for U. S. Fancy; that the grade designation "U.S. Commercial" be changed to U. S. No. 1 Cookers"; and that U. S. Utility Early grade be deleted.

Meanwhile, revised U. S. Standards for grades of Sulfured Cherries will become effective June 12. These standards replace those for pitted and for unpitted Sulfured Cherries which have been in effect since May 1934.

* * *

Potato growers in the State of Maine will vote June 14 and 15 whether Federal Marketing Order No. 87 shall be continued. Referendum was requested by Maine Potato Committee in response to petitions and requests received from growers. Results will be announced before June 30.

Meanwhile, members and alternates to serve on Idaho-Eastern Oregon Potato Committee for the period June 1, 1951-May 31, 1952 have been announced. Committee administers marketing order regulating handling of Irish potatoes produced in certain designated counties in Idaho and Malheur County, Oregon.

(continued)

The North Central Potato Committee which administers marketing order No. 60 regulating handling of Irish potatoes in Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, North Dakota and certain counties in northern Iowa and Indiana, will meet Thursday, May 17, with respect to 1951 operations.

* * *

About one million dollars a year might be saved by loading crates of cantaloups on end in railroad cars instead of the usual lengthwise loading. Savings are in reduced breakage, spoilage, refrigeration costs and other factors. So states a report entitled "Reduction of Cantaloup Loss and Damage in Rail Transportation Through Use of the Upright Loading Method," available from FMA Office of Information Services, USDA, Washington 25, D.C.

* * *

USDA has announced an increase of 10 million pounds in the over-all export allocation for all types of soft cotton waste for period April 1 through July 31, 1951.

* * *

Meat production under Federal inspection for the week ended May 12 was 283 million pounds, down 6 percent from preceding week and 2 percent under year ago. Production first three months this year was somewhat larger than in 1950. However, expanded military purchase program and increase in civilian population found consumption per civilian slightly smaller, according to BAE. Bureau looks for rest of 1951 production to exceed that of 1950 by greater margin, so that civilian supply and consumption prospects are more favorable.

* * *

An industry advisory committee, requested by pet food canners, has been appointed to consult with USDA on special problems arising from defense program. Committee, comprising representatives of various segments of pet food industry, is chairmaned by Drexel D. Watson, Director of FMA's Grain Branch.

* * *

Sales by all exporting countries under International Wheat Agreement against 1950-51 quotas recorded by Wheat Council through May 4, 1951 totalled 527,089,000 bushels. This leaves 35,456,000 bushels to be sold.

* * *

Canada's recent lifting of long standing ban on exports of live hogs to U.S. isn't likely to have any practical effect now or in near future, U.S.D.A. believes. Reason is price relationships in U.S. and Canada.

* * *

Canadian Ministry of Agriculture announces it will be prepared to purchase first-grade butter and cheese for price support purposes. Butter support price is set at 58¢ per lb. for years 1951-52 and 1952-53; cheese at 28¢ per lb., plus storage charges to date of delivery (not later than January 1, 1952).

* * *

Approximately 7,838,000 pounds of beef and gravy canned in Mexico are available for sale for export only, USDA announces. While this product was packed under inspection, Federal meat inspection regulations do not permit sale for consumption in United States of Mexican beef packed prior to December 30, 1950. Sealed bids must be made by noon, May 22. Acceptance will be made by midnight May 23.

* * *

USDA announces that arrangements are completed to sell 15 million pounds of Government-owned nonfat dry milk solids to United Nation's International Children's Emergency Fund for use in school lunch and child feeding programs in foreign countries. This sale will exhaust the Department's older stocks for human consumption.

* * *

Condition of the early spring lamb crop was generally favorable on May 1 despite cool weather during most of April and slow growth of pastures and ranges in many sections, according to BAE. In many areas, larger numbers of ewe lambs are being kept for breeding than in recent years.

* * *

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May 23, 1951

FOOD MARKETING NEWSLETTER

Here are some conclusions reached by Agriculture Secretary Brannan after a study of the facts in the livestock and meat situation. They are contained in a recent statement by the Secretary.

-livestock production in this country is increasing.
-increase in pork supplies will tend to moderate price increases.
-pressure on price ceilings for beef will continue to mount unless producers tend to market their cattle before projected roll-back dates.
-expanding livestock numbers are bringing a shift in the relation of feed requirements to feed supplies. Unless crop yields are good this year, another substantial draft on feed reserves during 1951-52 will be necessary.
-some cattle feeders who purchased steers since January will be adversely affected by OPS orders. However, the number of feeder steers moving at this time of year is relatively small. Assuming that the effect of the OPS rollback is equitably distributed among various classes of cattle, prices should fairly soon re-adjust themselves in such a way as to continue to provide reasonable or normal incentives for cattle and calf feeding.
-average cattle and calf prices at about the 1950 level which will still be allowed by OPS ceilings, should still constitute a reasonable incentive for continuing production of beef animals. However, costs of farm and ranch operations are increasing and need careful watching.

* * *

USDA announces an offer of 900,000 pounds of dried eggs for purchase by domestic food manufacturers on an offer-and-acceptance basis. They are wholesome and palatable, but are approaching a moisture content which, within the next few months, may necessitate re-drying and repackaging unless moved into consumption. This latest offer of stocks acquired during 1950 by CCC under price support, is in addition to 1,000,000 pounds currently being offered to domestic buyers on fixed-price basis of \$1.03 per pound in carload lots.

* * *

Two public hearings under Federal Milk Marketing Orders announced this week:

On May 22 in Milwaukee, proposals made by Milwaukee Cooperative Milk Producers and certain handlers to amend Federal order regulating handling of milk in Milwaukee marketing area were considered.

A hearing will be held at Rockford, Illinois, on May 25 to consider proposals to revise the method for determining producer prices under order for the Rockford-Freeport marketing area. Included in the proposals is one which would provide for a "market-wide" pool to replace individual handler pools now used in computing uniform prices to producers supplying marketing area.

* * *

Export shipments of grain scheduled for July approximate 59,300,000 bushels. This is almost 90 percent of the average tonnage programmed for preceding four months which was the highest 4-month export program in recent years. July program includes about 37,300,000 bushels of wheat and about 22 million bushels of coarse grains.

* * *

Distribution of sugar by primary distributors in continental United States for civilian and military use during week ended May 12, was 226,313 short tons, raw value. Compares with 162,506 tons during same week 1950.

* * *

Sales by all exporting countries under International Wheat Agreement against 1950-51 quotas recorded by Wheat Council through May 11, 1951 was 525,257,000 bushels. This leaves 35,288,000 bushels to be sold.

* * *

U.S. Standards for grades of orange marmalade go into effect June 21 for the first time. Standards include two grades - Grade A or Fancy, and Grade B or Choice. They provide both for a "clear" and a "natural" type, and for three kinds - "sweet," "bitter," and "sweet and bitter."

Meanwhile, USDA has revised proposed standards for grades of edible sugarcane molasses. Revisions include changing names of two of the grades from "U.S. Medium-Light" and "U.S. Medium-Dark" to "U.S. Choice" and "U.S. Standard" respectively.

* * *

All-time heavy supplies of soybeans were on hand in U.S. on April 1 in spite of record movement to crushers during first half of this season. Total of nearly 142 million bushels included about 46.1 million on farms. Farmers indicate intentions to plant 13.8 million acres to soybeans this year...about 6 percent below last year's record acreage. Average yields, however, would still result in second highest crop on record.

* * *

Purchases of 1950 potatoes under price support program continue to decline. Purchases for week ended May 15 were 1,467,658 bushels.

* * *

An increase in permitted moisture content as an eligibility factor in price support for 1951 crop dry edible beans has been announced by USDA. Maximum moisture limit has been set at 18 percent instead of the 16 percent specified in Department's announcement of April 23.

* * *

Meat production under Federal inspection for week ended May 19 was 292 million pounds, an increase of 3 percent over the 283 million pounds the previous week and a year ago.

* * *

USDA has announced a revision of the allotment of 1951 sugar quotas for Puerto Rico in which the "Easter estimates" of 1950-51 crop production are substituted for earlier estimates. Revision limits marketings to 85 percent of the allotments prior to September 1, 1951. Final order, based on final production data and removing percentage restriction on marketings, is expected prior to that date.

* * *

BAE reports that the number of chicks produced by commercial hatcheries during April was 319,436,000 -- 12 percent more than in April 1950 and 1 percent above the 1945-49 average. Good demand for chicks for both flock replacement and broiler production was reported during the month.

* * *

Producer prices for milk for fluid use declined early in May in a limited number of markets, BAE states. Retail prices were unchanged from April levels in almost all reporting markets. Class I prices to producers declined in ten markets, about 1 in every eleven reporting. Retail prices advanced in two markets and declined in two markets.

* * *

Reports to USDA indicate planting of the 1951 rice crop was nearing completion in most areas at the close of the week ended May 7, with stands generally good.

* * *

USDA's Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations states world peanut production in 1950 is estimated at 10.3 million short tons of nuts in the shell, down about 2 percent from the postwar average and 600,000 tons below 1949 output. Forecasts early in season indicated possibility of record world crop, but prospects in India and Africa declined.

* * *

Members and alternates to serve on the two following marketing committees have been named: (1) Colorado Potato Area Committee which administers marketing agreement and order regulating handling of Irish potatoes produced in Colorado. (2) Control Committee for regulating handling of fresh Bartlett pears, plums, and Elberta peaches grown in California.

* * *

The 1951 acreage planted or to be planted to green peas for processing is reported by BAE at 479,040 acres. This is approximately 10 percent more than the 1950 plantings of 436,430 acres and 7 percent greater than the ten-year average of 446,140 acres. Of the 1951 plantings, 122,340 acres will be grown for freezing and 356,700 acres for canning and other processing.

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Midwest Area, Office of Information Services
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May 29, 1951

FOOD MARKETING NEWSLETTER

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★ JUL 9 - 1951

Farmers' net income, after paying operating expenses, may climb as high as the record of 17.8 billion dollars set in 1947. But income of people not on farms has climbed every year since 1940, so Bureau of Agricultural Economics reports that if net income of all farmers climbs to record level of 1947 it would buy about 12 per cent less goods and services than same number of dollars did in 1947.

Cash receipts from farming in 1951 expected to be about 25 per cent above last year, but costs are higher. Farm production is expected to approach record volume set in 1949, and prices are averaging about 20 per cent above last year. BAE predictions are based on anticipated production close to guides suggested by PMA, which suggest big increases in cotton, corn, and spring wheat. Expect receipts from most farm commodities, except fruits and tobacco, to be above last year.

* * *

Production of creamery butter during week ended May 24 estimated at 31.9 million pounds, compared to 29.4 previous week, 36.6 million year ago, and 33.8 million pounds five year average.

* * *

Home grown vegetables lead list of Plentiful Foods for Midwest during month of June. Monthly list announced by Midwest Area Office of Production and Marketing Administration names oranges, canned apples, applesauce and canned citrus juices among fruits; cottage cheese, broiler and fryer chickens, turkeys, fresh fish, dry beans, and peanut butter among protein foods.

* * *

Seed inspectors of PMA have seized eight shipments of alfalfa seed totaling 2,100 bags, on charges that seed was represented as northern grown when actually it was produced in southwest. Northern grown seed, hardier and more vigorous, has been selling at 30 to 40 cent per pound premium over southwestern-grown seed. Seed inspectors identified the seed as being mis-labeled when they found seeds of weeds and other plants which grow only in Southwest. Court permitted seed to be sold after it was properly labeled as to origin. Federal Seed Act governs labeling of seed to protect farmers against misrepresentation of such things as variety, germination, and place of origin.

* * *

USDA has taken actions affecting two Midwest milk markets. (1) In South Bend-LaPorte, Indiana, market, recommended increase in Class I price by 10 cents per hundred pounds, to bring price in line with nearby Chicago market; also expand Class I to include bottled milk, cream, flavored milk, buttermilk, and concentrated fluid milk.

(2) Announced public hearing on proposal for milk marketing order in Neosho Valley of Kansas and Missouri, to be held at Chanute, Kansas, June 12. USDA recommended marketing order for the area on March 28, but handlers in the area proposed eliminating some cities included in USDA proposals. June 12 hearing will air both sides of disputed proposal.

* * *

BAE reports value of its "Market Basket" of selected U.S.-produced foods dropped 1 per cent between mid-March and mid-April. Market Basket includes year's supply of selected foods for average-size family. These foods in April cost \$363 at farm prices and \$718 at retail. Prices dropped on fruits, vegetables, and dairy products. Farmers got 51 per cent, and distributors 49 per cent of consumer's dollar.

* * *

Sales by all exporting countries under the International Wheat Agreement against 1950-51 quotas through May 18, 1951 totaled 527,880,000 bushels. This leaves 34,665,000 bushels to be sold. Since last week's report, the Wheat Agreement quota for Cyprus has been closed.

* * *

U. S. exports of fats and oils on an oil equivalent basis totaled 477 million pounds during the first quarter of 1951, compared with 572 million pounds in the same period last year, USDA's Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations reports.

* * *

An additional 350,000 cwt. of 1948-crop red kidney beans has been added to USDA's May list of commodities offered for sale for export. Beans are offered at \$6.50 per 100 lbs., bagged, for U. S. No. 1 grade, basis f.a.s. New York. A discount of 25¢ per 100 pounds will be allowed for U. S. No. 2 beans and a discount of 50¢ per 100 pounds from the U. S. No. 1 price will be allowed for U. S. No. 3 beans.

* * *

Sub-Order No. 2 to Defense Food Order No. 2, establishing amounts of 1951 canned fruit pack to be set aside for defense use, has been announced. Fruits covered in Sub-Order include canned apples, apricots, blueberries, blackberries, red sour pitted cherries, sweet cherries, Kadota figs, fruit cocktail, peaches, Bartlett pears, pineapple, pineapple juice and purple plums. Set-aside percentages range from 10 for blueberries to 41 for figs; will total about 10.5 million cases of canned fruit.

* * *

Ice cream production in U. S. during April is estimated at 43,490,000 gallons by BAE. Output was 5 per cent above April 1950 but 11 per cent less than 5-year (1945-49) average for month. Production first four months this year was 4 per cent above that for corresponding period 1950, but 3 per cent under 1945-49 average for those months.

* * *

BAE expects egg prices to rise seasonally until late in year, having passed the low point for the season. Mid-April average of 43.1¢ per dozen (94 per cent of parity) was 1.7¢ higher than average of 41.4¢ received by farmers in February. Prices received so far this year have been about 12¢ higher than year earlier.

* * *

Supply of peanuts - farmers' stock equivalent - held in commercial positions on April 30 totaled 648 million pounds, compared with 434 million pounds on April 30, 1950. Inventory of farmers' stock peanuts was 443 million pounds against 232 million pounds respectively; holdings of 115 million pounds of edible grade shelled peanuts slightly less than 118 million a year earlier.

* * *

USDA has extended to June 30, 1951, the final date of exports of apples under its apple export payment program begun last September. Original terminal date was May 31, 1951. Extension is due to record high supplies of apples remaining in storage. About 2.4 million boxes have been exported under program.

* * *

A tabulation by states of the monthly deliveries of sugar by primary distributors during March is available from USDA.

* * *

World rice production in 1950-51 (August-July) is estimated at 342,000 million pounds of rough rice against 339,000 million pounds a year ago in the third estimate by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, USDA.

* * *

Meat production under Federal inspection during week of May 26, first week during which prices of live cattle were under OPS controls, dropped 5 per cent below previous week and 3 per cent below same week last year. Production was 276 million pounds, compared with 292 million previous week, and 284 million a year earlier. Cattle slaughter was 218,000 head, 6 per cent below preceding week and same percentage below year ago. Beef production was 120 million pounds, compared with 130 and 127, respectively. Hog slaughter was 1,029,000 head, 3 per cent below preceding week, but 5 per cent above year earlier. Pork production was 141 million pounds, compared with 147 million last week and 135 million last year.

* * *

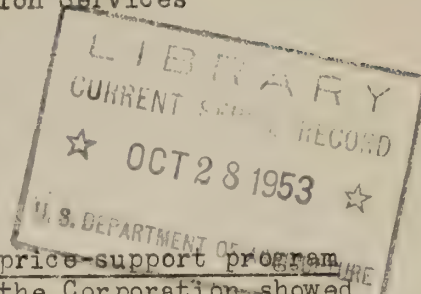
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Midwest Area, Office of Information Services
623 South Wabash Avenue
Chicago 5, Illinois
June 6, 1951

FOOD MARKETING NEWSLETTER



USDA reports an investment of \$2,260,276,000 in CCC price-support program loans and inventories as of April 30, 1951 and that the Corporation showed a net loss of \$276,535,000 through April of the current fiscal year. Loss for the entire fiscal year ended June 30, 1950 was \$249,230,000. Of total \$2,260,276,000 investment, loans outstanding were \$638,109,000. Inventories acquired under loan, purchase agreement, and direct purchase operations represented investment of \$1,622,167,000.

* * *

BAE's index of prices received by farmers dropped slightly more than 1 percent, or 4 points, from mid-April to mid-May. Mid-May index was 305 percent of 1910-14 average. Drop reflected declines in prices of meat animals, strawberries, cotton, milk, wool and wheat, which were only partially offset by slightly higher prices for corn, butterfat, eggs and some truck and fruit crops. Parity index declined 1 point to 282 percent, with lower prices for feeder livestock and some seeds only partially offset by increases in harvesting machinery and feed. Result was drop in parity ratio from 109 to 108.

* * *

Approximate quantities and domestic prices of CCC commodities available for domestic sale during June have been announced by USDA. On the list are dried whole eggs, nonfat dry milk solids, raw linseed oil, dry edible beans, Austrian Winter Pea seed, Blue Lupine Seed, Kobe Lespedeza seed, Weeping Love grass seed, Common and Willamette Vetch seed, wheat, oats, barley and corn. Sales from the domestic list for the period January 1 through May 8, 1951, totaled \$61,848,066.

* * *

Poultry and domestic rabbits each get separate regulations for grading and inspection purposes beginning July 1, USDA has announced. Present regulations cover both combined. Revised regulations for grading and inspection of domestic rabbits have been developed with the counsel and advice of the domestic rabbit industry. New regulations covering poultry grading and inspection were officially adopted, with minor revisions, following review by industry, health, sanitation and State Department of Agriculture officials.

Meanwhile, proposed new regulations governing grading and inspection of dairy products, required by the forthcoming administrative separation of the currently combined dairy and poultry grading and inspection services of USDA, will be the same as those contained in the combined regulations except for minor revisions. These include proposed increase of 60% in hourly rate for grading, inclusion of separate fee schedule for grading Swiss cheese and a provision for denial of grading service under certain conditions involving fraudulent grade labelling practices by users of the service.

* * *

USDA has announced that price support loans on 1951-crop cottonseed will be available at \$65.50 per ton for basis grade (100). In areas where a purchase program may be necessary, purchases will be made at \$61.50 per ton basis grade (100) cottonseed. Prices will be supported by means of loans, purchase agreements and purchases of cottonseed and of cottonseed products.

* * *

USDA estimates July-April exports of United States grains and grain products at approximately 12,250,000 long tons (475,615,000 bushels of grain equivalent). This compares with 10,800,000 long tons (426,466,000 b.g.e.) in same period 1949-50.

* * *

A change in the sugar export licensing policy, made in cooperation with the Department of Commerce, has been announced by USDA. Purpose is to provide further protection of sugar supplies in the domestic market. From May 31 through September 30, license applications for any one country for quantities totaling more than 135 tons of sugar will be approved only upon certification that the sugar to be exported is foreign world sugar imported under bond for refining and re-export. Reasonable quantities of "quota" sugar not exceeding 135 tons will be licensed for export only to countries normally importing sugar from the United States.

* * *

Bids have been invited by USDA for the purchase of approximately 11 million pounds of refined or unrefined lard under a Department of State order for Yugoslavia. Deadline for receipt of offers was June 6.

* * *

Proposals to increase prices for Class I and II milk and change the Springfield, Mo. milk marketing order will be considered at a hearing in the Greene County Courthouse at Springfield, beginning at 9:30 A.M., CST. June 7. Among the proposals is one to provide an appropriate price to be paid Springfield producers for Class I milk sold by Springfield handlers in other markets that are under Federal milk marketing orders.

Scheduled for hearing on June 11 are proposals to amend pricing provisions of the federal milk marketing order for the Cincinnati area. Hearing will begin at 10:00 A.M., EST, in the Sinton Hotel, Fourth & Vine Sts., Cincinnati, Ohio.

* * *

Meat production under Federal inspection for the week ended June 2 - which included the Decoration Day holiday - was 261 million pounds. This was 6 percent under the 278 million pounds produced the preceding week and 1 percent below the 263 million pounds a year earlier.

* * *

Approximately 7,838,000 pounds of beef and gravy canned in Mexico is being re-offered for sale, for export only, by CCC because the highest bidder under a previous offering on May 11 failed to make the necessary financial arrangements in the time specified.

* * *

April production of dry casein is estimated by BAE at 2,250,000 pounds, up 5 percent from a year earlier and 10 percent from the five-year average. Seasonal gain from March to April was less than a year earlier and under the average increase for the years 1945-49. Output of 6,655,000 pounds the first four months this year showed gain of 11 percent from both a year earlier and the five-year average.

* * *

Fewer fruits and vegetables will require certification when this summer's Japanese beetle quarantine on farm products gets into operation in mid-June, according to USDA. These requirements will start either June 12 or 26, based on anticipated beetle emergence at shipping points. Certification requirements will apply only to carlot and truckload shipments of fresh corn on cob, fresh beans in pod, cabbage, apples and peaches. These are the farm products likely to be infested at time of harvest and to harbor beetles in the commercial pack.

* * *

Names of members and their alternates to serve on the following three marketing committees have been announced by USDA. (1) State of Maine Potato Committee for handling of Irish potatoes produced in Maine (2) Administrative Committee for regulating handling of peaches grown in Utah (3) Pecan Administrative Committee for handling of pecans grown in Georgia, Alabama, Florida, Mississippi, and South Carolina.

* * *

USDA's Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations reports that a total of 22 million bushels of apples and 6.9 million bushels of pears entered world trade in 1950, compared with 26.8 million and 8.6 million bushels respectively in 1949. Five-year average (1935-39) was 32.3 million bushels of apples and 6.6 million bushels of pears. Exports of apples from the U. S. and Canada totalled 7.8 million bushels in 1950 against 5.3 million in 1949 and the 5-year average of 16.3 million.

* * *

Distribution of sugar by primary distributors in the continental United States for civilian and military use during week ended May 26 was 241,880 short tons, raw value. This compares with 177,282 tons during the corresponding week of 1950.

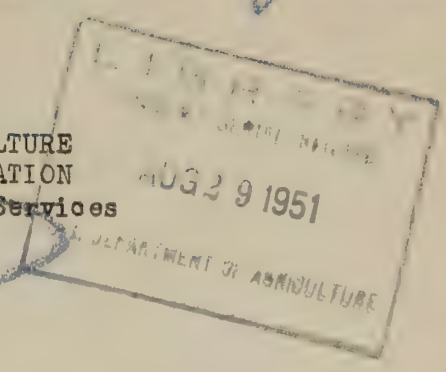
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Total butter and cheese output in principal producing countries increased considerably in 1950 over 1949, according to USDA's Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Milk production in practically every major producing country was greater in 1950 than in the preceding year. Thus, despite generally increased fluid milk consumption and a larger output of canned milk, larger quantities were generally available for use in butter and cheese.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
PRODUCTION AND MARKETING ADMINISTRATION
Midwest Area, Office of Information Services
523 South Wabash Avenue
Chicago 5, Illinois
June 13, 1951



FOOD MARKETING NEWSLETTER

Nation's wheat crop will be slightly over 1 billion bushels according to June 1 estimate just announced by Bureau of Agricultural Economics. Rains in Kansas and southwest helped prospects for winter wheat, and spring wheat crop estimated at 348 million bushels is largest in 36 years. No estimate on corn crop made this early in year.

Total milk production estimated slightly larger than year ago but under average of past 10 years; average cow giving 3 per cent more milk than year ago. Average hen laying eggs at highest rate on record, 18.3 eggs per bird during month of May; total production of 6,156 million eggs just under year ago, but 3 per cent above average for May.

Production of potatoes in winter, spring, and summer crops estimated at 54 million bushels compared with 73 million last year; this omits the late crop which is usually four to five times as large as the earlier crops. Early onion production estimated slightly over 8 million bags, about one-fifth less than last year.

Cherry production, both sweet and sour varieties, down slightly from last year. Peach crop promises to be about 65 million bushels, compared with 53 million last year, but Midwest crop will be very short, as result of sub-zero winter; Georgia and South Carolina have good prospects after two bad years; California, which produces about half of nation's peach crop, has increase in sight over last year.

* * *

USDA offered 7,838,000 pounds of Mexican canned beef and gravy for sale again, for export only. Meat was marked "sold" several weeks ago, but prospective purchaser failed to make necessary financial arrangements in time; so it was again put up for sale with June 12 as deadline.

* * *

Potato growers in six North Central states, North Dakota, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan, northern Indiana and northern Iowa, will vote next month on whether to continue or terminate USDA Marketing Order 60, which regulates marketing of potatoes produced in those states. Committee of growers and handlers which administered marketing order on 1950 crop was about evenly divided on continuation, so USDA has decided to take referendum of growers by mail week of July 9-13. Of ten potato marketing orders in operation last year, seven expected to continue, growers in Maine vote in referendum this month and North Central growers vote next month, growers in Virginia and North Carolina voted to terminate. Under marketing order, committee of growers and handlers recommends standards of size and quality which all potatoes in the area must meet, and these standards become binding on all. With no price support available this year, some growers favor dropping marketing order; others regard it as desirable method of setting higher standards of quality and maintaining consumer good will.

* * *

Daily Branch of PMA has announced decision to issue Federal order regulating marketing of milk in Detroit area. Two-thirds of dairy producers supplying milk to Detroit and near-by cities must vote favorably in referendum to put order into effect. Milk marketing order insures minimum prices to dairy farmers, but does not regulate retail prices to consumers.

* * *

USDA announcements affecting milk marketing orders in several Midwest areas have been made during past week: Change Toledo marketing order to include Monroe, Michigan and three adjacent townships in marketing area; change price provisions of order for Dayton and Springfield, Ohio; change price provisions in Cincinnati order; add Wilson county, Kansas to area being considered for new marketing order covering Neosho Valley of Missouri and Kansas. Hearings scheduled this week on all these proposals.

* * *

Official standards for non-fat dry milk solids announced last week. About same as tentative standards in effect since 1943, based on bacterial estimate, butterfat content, color, flavor, odor, moisture content, physical appearance, scorched particle content, solubility index and titratable acidity.

* * *

Meat production last week (ending June 9) was about same as week before, 11 per cent below comparable week of year ago: 262, 261, 293 million pounds respectively; but type of meat showed sharp changes. Compared with previous week, beef production dropped from 110 million to 79 million pounds, while pork jumped from 136 to 165 million pounds.

* * *

Industry advisory committee has recommended continued restrictions on industrial use of castor oil during July-September quarter; restrictions to date under USDA's Defense Food Order No. 1, according to committee members, have made more castor oil available for military and stockpile purposes.

* * *

Secretary of Agriculture announced preliminary allocation of 2.5 million bales of cotton to be permitted for export during period August-November. License is required for exporting cotton, with Department of Agriculture setting total amounts permitted for export, and Department of Commerce issuing licenses.

* * *

More sugar for American consumers is object of increase in sugar import quotas announced by USDA. Quota to be imported has been increased from 8 million to 8,250,000 tons for 1951. Following three months of low demand, sugar distribution (and presumably consumption) jumped sharply during April and May. Prices of refined sugar have gone up only quarter of a cent, but on world market raw sugar prices have climbed from 4.75 cents per pound to 7.20. As result, world prices have gone above price U. S. pays to Cuba.

* * *

Farmers with 1950 corn under loan to Commodity Credit Corporation and stored on the farm may extend loans for another year until July 31, 1952, under re-seal program just announced. Farmer who had signed agreement to sell corn to CCC may change and put corn under extended loan. Corn from 1948 and '49 crops may not be re-sealed; these loans, on 103 million bushels, mature end of July. Loans and purchase agreements on 1950 crop total about 50 million bushels, smallest figure in four years.

* * *

PMA offers 54 different lots of non-fat dry milk solids for sale as animal feed, most lots running 40-50 thousand pounds; material has gone off grade so it no longer is up to standard for human consumption. Seven other lots offered because of insect infestation. Offers should be made to Dairy Branch, PMA, USDA, Washington 25, D. C.

* * *

PMA wants to buy 950 thousand pounds of American Cheddar cheese, U. S. Grade A, cheddars or twins, packed for export to Greece. Packages will bear new ECA emblem. Contact Dairy Branch, PMA, USDA, Washington 25, D. C.

* * *

USDA has proposed standards of quality for almonds, shelled and in-shell, to provide basis of trading; standards were developed at request of people in the industry. Revised standards for canned sweet potatoes will go into effect July 9, replacing standards in use during past four years. Standards for canned green beans and 'canned wax beans also will be revised under proposal made by USDA, as result of suggestions made by industry.

* * *

Payments to encourage exports of dried apples will be made by USDA. Payments of 10¢ per pound, or up to half of f.a.s. sales price, whichever is lower. Object is to provide outlet for surplus fresh apples which might be lost as food if not dried and exported, and to make dried apples available to ECA countries. Application forms soon will be sent to exporters, with details of export payment program.

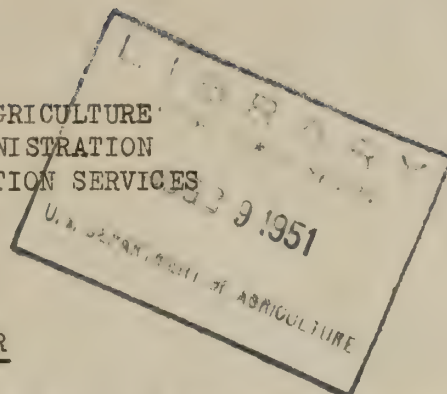
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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 MIDWEST AREA, OFFICE OF INFORMATION SERVICES
 623 South Wabash Avenue
 Chicago 5, Illinois
 June 19, 1951



FOOD MARKETING NEWSLETTER

Monthly report on cold storage holdings in U. S. on May 31 showed cooler space 62 per cent occupied and freezer space 71 per cent occupied, both increases over month earlier. Total food supply in cold storage, about 3 billion pounds. Increase in occupancy in freezers started about a month earlier than usual this year, and increases are expected for next several months. Three million bushels of apples still in storage constituted record high for the date. Butter moved into storage at only half usual rate for May, with total stocks 42 million pounds; 196 million pounds of cheese. Shell eggs in storage were less than half normal supply for end of May, and frozen egg stocks also were below average although the increase in May was greater than usual.

Meat in storage totaled 834 million pounds compared with 674 million a year ago and 5-year average of 672 million pounds. Beef stocks dropped 11 million pounds to about 100 million.

* * *

U. S. has sold 7.8 million pounds of Mexican canned beef and gravy to governments of Britain and Israel. Meat was acquired as part of foot and mouth disease control campaign in Mexico, in which U. S. and Mexican governments cooperated, and meat could not be sold in U. S. These sales conclude USDA disposal of approximately 220 million pounds of meat products canned in Mexico.

* * *

International trade in grain makes several news items this week: Governments may start ordering grain against 1951-52 quotas, of the International Wheat Agreement, although shipments will not be made until new marketing year starts August 1. Quotas are same as during 50-51 marketing year in which U.S. has sold over 248 million bushels of wheat (as grain or flour). Canada, Australia, and France are other exporting nations in the agreement; 42 nations plus their territories are on receiving end.

Japan has just been admitted to International Wheat Agreement, with quota of 18 million bushels, most of it to come from U. S.

Debate in Congress over aid to India has tended to obscure fact that India has been buying wheat from U. S. regularly under International Wheat Agreement: 27,794,000 bushels during present marketing year; same amount scheduled for next year. Grain shipments to India resulting from new loan already are under way, and USDA has announced 7.5 million bushels are scheduled for shipment to India during September and almost as much for October. Schedules of grain shipments to all countries are worked out several months in advance because of limited shipping space.

* * *

U. S. agricultural representatives in Northwestern Europe, and Italy reported recently that winter wheat and rye in those countries will be short this year because wet soil last fall interfered with seeding. Prospects better in rest of Mediterranean area. Italy using hybrid seed corn and expecting good corn crop.

* * *

Potatoes from Idaho, Malheur county, Oregon, and from entire state of Washington must meet standards of U. S. No. 2 grade to be eligible for shipment; these regulations have been announced by USDA on basis of recommendations of growers and handlers administering federal marketing orders in those areas. Midwest growers in six states will vote July 9-13 on whether to terminate or continue marketing order on potatoes produced in North Dakota, Minnesota, Michigan, Wisconsin, northern Indiana and northern Iowa.

* * *

Nation should have half million tons of nitrogen fertilizer more than present annual output of 1,250,000 tons, and should increase production by additional 100,000 tons each year. This is objective set by Secretary of Agriculture Brannan in talk to convention of American Plant Food Council last Saturday. USDA prefers to aid private fertilizer manufacturers in expanding their plant capacity rather than put government into fertilizer business, although Army plant at Morgantown, W. Va., is being put into operation, and will have capacity of 200,000 tons of nitrogen fertilizer per year. By 1960, as population increases, total fertilizer requirements will be twice present consumption.

* * *

Secretary of Agriculture has named 10 men to Peanut Industry Advisory Committee, representing users as well as producers and shippers of peanuts. Committee will advise USDA on problems arising from nation's defense program.

* * *

Fresh fruits lead list of Plentiful Foods in Midwest for July. Peaches from Georgia and South Carolina; lemons, limes, and Valencia oranges will be plentiful. Potatoes from both coasts will be in ample supply, and home grown vegetables will be coming to market throughout the Midwest. Large stocks of canned applesauce, peanut butter, and honey are reported on hand. Heavy milk flow in June makes cottage cheese a plentiful item for July, and broiler and fryer chickens, and fish, both frozen and fresh, will help to supplement the meat supply.

* * *

Meat production during week ending June 16 increased slightly over preceding week, 264 million pounds compared with 261 million, but was 7 per cent below 284 million pounds of same week last year. Cattle slaughter was 155,000 head, compared with 148,000 last year and 229,000 a year ago. Calf slaughter was 93,000 head, compared with 103,000 preceding week and 108,000 year ago. Hog slaughter of 1,140,000 head compared with 1,178,000 preceding week and 966,000 head during same week year ago. Sheep and lamb slaughter was 181,000 head compared with 167,000 preceding week and 222,000 last year.

* * *

Membership in 4-H Clubs, composed of nation's farm boys and girls, reached 1,990,000 in 1950. USDA officials announced last week during National 4-H Club Camp in Washington.

* * *

Fifty-eight 4-H Club members, or former members, leave for Europe next week to live with farm families in 17 countries of Europe and Near East returning in October. Twenty-four young people from six foreign countries already are in U.S. to live with farm families. Part of International Farm Youth Exchange Project fostered by USDA and Land Grant Colleges.

* * *

USDA has announced "open end" allocation of cotton waste for export. Exports of cotton waste still must be under license by Department of Commerce, and limits may be set if supply gets short, but present supplies permit unlimited exports in near future.

* * *

More coconut and palm oil will go to Italy under increased allocations announced by USDA. Two million four hundred sixty thousand pounds of each oil will be sent to Italy by June 30.

* * *

Sweet cherries can be packed for market cheaper in transparent film bags than in any other common method, USDA found in study of packing costs last year in California, Oregon, and Washington. Customary method is to row-pack in 15 pound boxes; cost 86 cents for container, labor, and pre-cooling; plastic bags permitting packing at cost of only 56 cents for same amount of cherries. Cost of packing in window cartons, 97 cents, plastic baskets \$1.36; overwrapped trays \$1.72.

* * *

PMA proposes to increase rate for official grading of eggs to \$3.60 per hour, increase of 60 cents. Proposed increase will go into effect July 1 unless objections by interested parties cause change in plans.

* * *

Hearing on changes in milk marketing order for Fort Wayne, Indiana, will be held on June 21. Changes have been proposed by producer organization, and call for higher price to producers for milk sold as fluid milk or cream, and different method of calculating price.

* * *

Bureau of Agricultural Economics has issued 58 page mimeographed circular "Chief Factors Underlying General Changes in Rail Freight Rates, With Special Reference to Farm Products, 1910-51." Circular reports study of Interstate Commerce Commission rulings on freight rates and reasons for increases or decreases ordered by Commission. Available from BAE, USDA, Washington 25, D. C.

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June 27, 1951

FOOD MARKETING NEWSLETTER

The 1951 spring pig crop totaled 63,818,000 head, up 7 percent from last spring. Combined 1951 total pig crop is now expected to reach about 106,000,000 head, second largest on record, 5 percent above 1950 and 16 percent over 1940-49 average.

* * *

Location adjustments by producing areas of the May 15 "legal minimum" prices for most deciduous fruits and berries for processing have been announced by USDA. Announcement at this time is to help growers and processors in the marketing of the 1951 crops.

* * *

CCC has confirmed sales of 6,488,000 bushels of wheat (including wheat and wheat flour in terms of wheat equivalent) during the period June 14 to 19 inclusive under the International Wheat Agreement. These sales are against 1951-1952 quotas. Included were 1,752,336 hundredweight of flour (wheat equivalent - 4,057,000 bushels) and 2,431,000 bushels of wheat. First export payment rates for the 1951-52 IWA year were announced on June 14.

* * *

U. S. Standards for grades of apples and sweet potatoes were given attention by USDA the past week. Standards for both U. S. No. 1 and U. S. No. 2 grades of sweet potatoes for canning and for sweet potatoes for dicing and pulping become effective for use July 23, 1951. At the same time, revised standards of grades for apples will go into effect. It will be the first major revision of apple standards since 1931.

* * *

Potatoes from the state of New Jersey, also from Area 1 (Western Slope) and Area 3 (Greeley Section), Colorado, must meet certain requirements as to grade and size to be eligible for shipment, according to recent regulations issued by USDA.

Potatoes from Areas 1 and 3 of Colorado are limited to U. S. No. 2 or better grade of at least 2 inches minimum diameter or 4 ounces minimum weight. In addition, shipments must comply with maturity regulations.

New Jersey potatoes must meet minimum requirements of U. S. Commercial grade not less than 85 percent U. S. No. 1 quality, at least 2 inches diameter. However, handlers may ship U. S. No. 1, Size B potatoes if such lots are segregated.

For violation of Federal Marketing Order regulating handling and shipping of New Jersey potatoes, Marriott H. Prickett, Mount Holly, N. J. was recently fined \$500 in U. S. District Court at Trenton.

* * *

Further comprehensive information regarding long-term prospects for marketing of U. S. Dairy products in Latin America is being sought by USDA under its Research and Marketing Act program.

* * *

The probability that mechanical harvesting of snapbeans will soon be here has attracted attention of growers, processors and breeders to the possibilities in new varieties and lower labor costs, says USDA. Some canners rate snapbeans as the canning vegetable crop with highest cost for harvest labor. Work on the harvester is being done by private enterprise.

* * *

Research which is making new types of improved confectionery possible is opening new outlets for agricultural products, a USDA chemist recently told delegates to the 68th annual convention of the National Confectioners' Association. Improved candies have been made by the addition of soy protein, brewers' yeast, sweet whey and other ingredients derived from agricultural commodities. Methods to keep the candies fresh longer have also been developed.

* * *

The frozen food locker industry is in a position to render valuable service in an emergency because of the wide distribution of its processing facilities and storage stocks, according to two reports issued by USDA. Prepared by Farm Credit Administration, the reports are M.R. 146 - "Frozen Food Locker Plants - Location, Capacity, Rates and Use, January 1, 1950" and M.R. 148 - "Frozen Food Locker Cooperatives in Illinois, 1949". The 11,442 frozen food lockers in the United States on January 1, 1950 were serving 3.9 million locker patrons and about 440 thousand home unit owners not renting lockers, a total of over 16 million persons.

* * *

Distribution of sugar by primary distributors during the week ended June 16 totaled 148,837 short tons, raw value, against 165,642 tons during the same week last year.

Officials of USDA have told the Fertilizer Advisory Committee that the Department has no thought of allocating fertilizer at this time. The Committee also was told that an increase in productive capacity of 500,000 tons of nitrogen, 40 percent more than present capacity, is needed in the immediate future.

* * *

The selection of 13 of the 14 members and their alternates to serve on the Raisin Administrative Committee until June 1, 1952 has been announced by USDA. Committee administers Federal marketing agreement and order regulating handling of raisins produced from raisin variety grapes grown in California.

* * *

Federally inspected production of meat for week ended June 23 totaled 268 million pounds, up slightly from the 264 million pounds of the preceding week but 8 percent below the 292 million pounds a year earlier.

* * *

USDA reminds exporters that June 20, 1951, was the effective date for the dried apple export program announced June 6, 1951. Terms and conditions of the program were published in Federal Register on June 22, 1951.

* * *

Several milk marketing orders in midwest areas were affected by USDA announcements the past week...

- (a) final approval was given to proposed changes in Cleveland, Ohio, order, including upward adjustment in minimum Class I price of about 21 cents per hundredweight on an annual average basis.
- (b) final approval given to amendments to Rockford-Freeport, Ill. order which would revise milk price differentials in line with recent changes in Chicago order and make other changes.
- (c) approval given to amending pricing and classification provisions in order covering South Bend-LaPorte, Indiana, area. Changes are designed to provide an improved relationship price between this area and Chicago market.
- (d) approval given to amending order for Milwaukee marketing area so as to bring Class I and II price differentials in line with recent revision in Chicago order.
- (e) The extent of the marketing area in the proposed Neosho Valley (Kansas-Missouri) marketing agreement will be considered at a reopened hearing on the order in Chanute, Kansas, on July 9. Hearing will begin at 9:00 a.m., c.s.t., in Memorial Building.

* * *

Shipment of cherries from the state of Washington has been delayed by rain damage to the crop. Believing rain was caused by rain makers who started seeding clouds early in June on contract from wheat growers in Central Washington, an injunction has been served to prevent cloud seeding.

* * *

Bureau of Agricultural Economics reports a strong demand for chicks during May. Number produced by commercial hatcheries totalled 276,468,000 -- 29 percent more than May 1950 production and 13 percent over 5-year average for the month.

* * *

A third more of the 1950 crop potatoes were purchased through June 19 than were purchased from the 1949 crop. Some purchases still were being made in Maine and Michigan. Total through June 19 was 101,623,891 bushels.

* * *

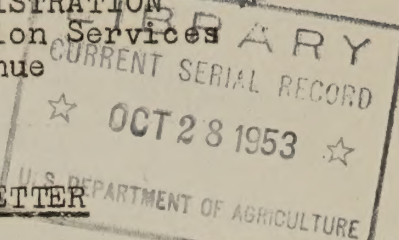
USDA's Yearbook of Agriculture for 1950-51, entitled "Crops in Peace and War" and its reports on uses of major farm products has been issued. Distribution by members of Congress.

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July 11, 1951



FOOD MARKETING NEWSLETTER

Crop prospects July 1 were among the best this country has ever known, according to BAE. Acreage was the largest since 1933 and yield prospects equal to the best in recent years. Following table shows prospective size of crop for some major farm commodities, compared with 1950:

	1951 (000 Bushels)	1950 (000 Bushels)		1951 (000 Bushels)	1950 (000 Bushels)
Wheat	1,070,000	1,027,000	Apples	121,916	123,126
Corn	3,300,000	3,100,000	Peaches	67,128	53,485
Oats	1,367,967	1,465,000	Pears	31,997	31,140
Barley	263,000	301,000	Potatoes	356,043	439,043
Rye	25,600	23,000			

Indicated production also includes 37,961,000 bushels of flaxseed, down 3 percent. Planted soybean acreage 14.5 million, approximately 2 percent smaller; all sorghums 15,970,000 acres, down 4 percent.

USDA had \$2,060,742,000 tied up in CCC price-support program loans and inventories as of May 31, 1951 - a drop of \$1.75 billion from a year earlier. In 11 months this year, the corporation sustained a net loss of \$290,635,000 in carrying out this program. For the entire fiscal year ended June 30, 1950, the corporation lost \$249,230,000.

USDA's recent sale of 16,800,000 pounds of dried whole eggs to Great Britain virtually exhausted its stocks of such eggs in the Atchinson, Kansas, cave...the government's natural cooler facility. Only a small experimental quantity remains. However, other stocks of dried eggs still are on hand and available for sale by CCC.

USDA estimates exports of grains and grain products for the period July 1950-May 1951 at approximately 14,332,000 long tons - 558,080,000 bushels of grain equivalent. This compares with 11,516,000 long tons or 454,111,000 bushels for the same period of 1949-1950.

Farmers may extend CCC loans on 1949-crop corn in areas where the grain can be safely stored on farms for another year. Maturity date is July 31, 1952.

USDA actions on milk orders the past week included (1) approval of order for Cedar Rapids-Iowa City marketing area almost identical with those covering Quad Cities, Clinton and Dubuque (2) recommended amendment to Duluth-Superior order which would increase Class I butterfat differential by 12 percent and classify concentrated milk in Class I.

CCC has confirmed Wheat Agreement sales of 1,682,000 bushels during the period June 27 to July 3, 1951, inclusive. The sales, made against 1951-52 quotas, included 317,000 hundredweight of flour, and 949,000 bushels of wheat. Cumulative sales since opening of 1951-52 quotas year on June 14 total 13,411,000 bushels.

Change from sacks to bulk handling of beans is the reason for proposed amendments to U.S. Warehouse Act regulations. Amendments would permit warehouses to store uncleaned beans on a bulk basis, issue warehouse receipts and clean the beans while receipts are outstanding.

USDA has proposed standards for grades of frozen field peas and frozen black-eyed peas; also a revision of standards for grades of frozen spinach. Grade designations for all would be U.S. Grade A or U.S. Fancy, U.S. Grade B or U.S. Extra Standard and Substandard. Color, absence of defects and character would be the quality factors determining grade.

May production and stocks of total nonfat dry milk were the lowest and manufacturers' selling prices the highest for the month in several years, BAE reports.

The smaller use farmers made of price support for small grains and related crops during the past year than in the 1949-50 marketing season is shown by the following USDA table:

	PURCHASE		PURCHASE		TOTALS	
	LOANS		AGREEMENTS			
	1949	1950	1949	1950	1949	1950
Wheat	332.9	187.7	46.4	8.6	379.3	196.3
Barley	28.4	29.6	4.5	1.0	32.9	30.6
Oats	31.2	14.6	10.7	.4	41.9	15.0
Rye	.83	1.2	.39	.05	1.2	1.3
Flaxseed	9.3	.9	2.5*	.06	11.9*	.96
Soybeans	11.3	14.6	4.8	.24	16.1	14.8
(Millions CWT.)						
Grain Sorghums	42.2	33.1	3.5	.49	45.7	33.6
Beans	7.2	1.3	1.7	.26	8.9	1.6
Rice	1.9	.22	6.3	.57	8.2	.79

*Includes 199,268 bushels under direct purchase.

A regulation raising the minimum standards of quality for hops under the marketing agreement and order program has been announced by USDA. Maximum leaf and stem content has been lowered from 15 percent to 10 percent.

USDA has authorized Department of Commerce's Office of International trade to place coconut oil, palm oil and oiticica oil on open-end quota for period July 1 to September 30. Export control of sperm oil will be discontinued for period. Medicinal castor oil is to be continued on open-end quota.

Sugar distributed for U.S. consumption totaled 238,941 short tons, raw value, during week ended June 30, compared with 271,915 tons a year earlier. Distribution during January-May, 1951, was 3,332,220 tons against 2,931,155 same period in 1950.

Dr. Thomas E. Snyder, who originated or instigated most of the modern ways to control termites, has retired after 42 years of service with USDA.

Sweet potatoes and Irish potatoes for canning have been added to the list of processing vegetables for which "Legal Minimum" prices have been determined by USDA. Area "Legal Minimums" for 11 such vegetables, for which prices and production are reported separately for fresh and for processing use, were announced in February.

BAE estimates 29,510,000 acres of cotton in cultivation on July 1 this year. This is 58 percent more than the 18,613,000 acres on July 1, 1950 and 33 percent more than the 10-year average of 22,163,000 acres. Acreage is largest since 1937, and is well above target of 28.5 million acres suggested by USDA last spring. County PMA committees in cotton country campaigned actively to encourage increased acreage.